Evang. = Luth. Schulblatt.

54. Jahrgang.

Februar 1919.

Mr. 2.

Weihnachtsfatechefe über das Lied Mr. 34.

Auf Bunich bem "Schulblatt" überlaffen von 2B. Begener.

Die Weihnachtsgeschichte haben wir soeben aus dem Munde der Kleinen gehört. Wir wollen jetzt ein Weihnachtslied kurz betrachten, und zwar das Lied Nr. 34. Dieses Lied ist ganz nach Bibelsprüchen gedichtet, und wir wollen sehen, welche Sprüche der Dichter verwendet hat.

Wie viele Verse hat dies Lied? Es hat vier Verse.

(a) Mit welchen Borten beginnt jeder Vers? (b) Mit welchen Borten schließt jeder Vers? Mit den Borten: "Nun ist die Zeit erfüllt."

An welchen Spruch schließen sich diese Worte an? An den Spruch: "Da aber die Zeit erfüllet ward" usw. Gal. 4, 4. 5.

Diesen Spruch hat der Dichter als Hauptspruch zugrunde gelegt. "Da aber die Zeit erfüllet ward" — "Nun ist die Zeit erfüllt", heikt es.

Bas fest Erfüllung aber boraus? Berheifung.*)

Bas könnte es ohne Berheißung nicht geben? Erfüllung.

Die Verheißungen, um die es sich hier handelt, sind natürlich die Verheißungen oder Beissagungen von dem Meisias.

Wer hat nämlich verheißen? Gott.

Wen hat Gott den Menschen verheißen? Den Messias.

Den Leuten welches Testaments hat er den Messias verheißen? Den Leuten des Alten Testaments.

Bie wird daher auch die Zeit des Alten Testaments genannt? Die Zeit der Berheißung.

In welcher Zeit leben wir aber? In der Zeit der Erfüllung. Wodurch find nämlich die Berheißungen des Alten Testaments in Erfüllung gegangen? Durch die Geburt Christi.

^{*)} Um Raum gu fparen, find bie Antworten meift gefürzt gegeben.

Was geschah nach unserm Spruch, "da die Zeit erfüllet ward"? "Gott sandte seinen Sohn, geboren von einem Weibe."

Wie heißt es davon in dem ersten Bers unsers Liedes? "Des Söchsten Sohn . . . angenommen."

Wie fingen wir davon auch in dem Lied Nr. 30, 1? "Lobt Gott . . . und schenkt uns seinen Sohn."

Wie heißt es weiter in dem ersten Bers? "Hier ist der Mann . . . Strafe stillt."

An welches Wort des Alten Testaments schließen sich diese Worte an? "Ich habe den Mann, den Herrn", 1 Mos. 4, 1.

Wer hat dieses Wort geredet? Eva.

Wann? Bei der Geburt ihres erften Sohnes.

Wen meinte fie nämlich schon zu haben? Den Deffias.

Sie sagt: "Ich habe den Mann." Was will sie damit aubeuten? Daß der Wessias Wensch sein soll.

Sie sagt: "Ich habe den HErrn" (Jehovah). Was will fie damit andeuten? Daß der Messias Gott sein soll.

Was wußte Eva also in bezug auf die Person des Wessias? Daß er Gott und Mensch sein sollte.

Auf wen wartete Eva also schon, wie wir hier sehen? Auf den Messias.

Freilich irrte sie sich darin, daß sie meinte, sie habe bereits den Heiland geboren. Denn wer war ihr Sohn nicht? Der Messiss.

Bie heißt es weiter in unserm Bers? "Des Beibes Same kommt."

An welche Berheißung denken wir bei diesen Worten? "Ich will Feindschaft setzen" usw., 1 Mos. 3, 15.

Wer hat dieses Wort geredet? Gott der HErr.

Wann schon? Gleich nach dem Sündenfall.

Wer ist des Weibes Same, der der Schlange den Kopf zertreten soll? Fische Christus.

Wer ist die Schlange, die Christus überwinden soll? Der Teufel.

Jest kommen wir zum zweiten Bers. Mit welchen Borten beginnt diefer? "Run . . . Der Stern aus Jakob funkelt."

An welche Beissagung des Alten Testaments schließen sich diese Worte an? "Es wird ein Stern" usw., 4 Mos. 24, 17.

Wer hat dieses Wort geredet? Bileam.

Wer hatte nämlich den Bileam holen lassen? Der König Balak. Wozu? Er sollte Israel fluchen.

Was hat aber Bileam mit Israel getan? Er hat es gesegnet.

Auf wessen Besehl mußte er das tun? Auf Gottes Besehl. Bei dieser Gelegenheit hat Bileam dann diese herrliche Beisssauma geredet.

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Wer ift nämlich der Stern, der aus Jakob aufgehen soll? Das ist Christus.

Wie heißt es weiter in dem Bers? "Die trübe Nacht . . . perdunkelt."

An welche Stelle im Propheten Jesaias erinnern diese Worte? "Siehe, Kinsternis . . . die Völker", Jes. 60, 2.

Helche Finsternis, die die ganze Menscheit auf Erden bedeckt, meint er? Die Finsternis der Sünde.

Wodurch wird die natürliche Finsternis oder Nacht vertrieben? Durch die Sonne.

Oder auch durch einen hellen Stern. Durch welchen Stern, ja durch welche Sonne wird die Nacht der Sünde vertrieben? Durch ZEsum Christum.

Christus ist der Stern aus Juda, vor dem die Finsternis der Sünde weichen muß. Davon singen wir auch in dem Liede Nr. 40, B. 4 und 5: "Sollt' auch erscheinen dieser Zeit die Sonne der Gerechtiakeit" usw.

Wie wird Christus hier in diesem Liede genannt? Die Sonne der Gerechtigkeit.

Wie lauten die nächsten Worte unsers Verses? "Hier ist es . willt."

Heirbei denken wir an ein Wort aus dem Neuen Testament. Was wird uns nämlich von dem alten Simeon gesagt? Er wartete auf den Trost Asraels.

Wer ist der Trost Israels, nach dem sich alle Gläubigen des Alten Testaments sehnten? Der Wessias.

In welchem Flehen gaben sie ihrer Sehnsucht auch Ausdruck? "Ach, daß die Silse aus Zion über Israel käme" usw. (Ps. 14, 7.)

In welchem Liedervers find diese Worte auch wiedergegeben? "Ach, daß der Herr aus Zion käm'" usw. (Nr. 46. 5.)

Belches find die letten Borte des zweiten Verses? "Der Zions-hüter schreit."

Dies erinnert uns an ein Wort aus dem Propheten, das da lautet: "Hüter, ist die Nacht schier hin?" Dies bezieht sich auch auf die Nacht der Sünde.

Wie können wir antworten auf diese Frage, da Christus erschienen und der Stern aus Jakob aufgegangen ist? Wir können mit Ja antworten.

Jest kommen wir zum dritten Bers. Dies ist der schwerste. Bie beginnt dieser Bers? "Der Stah von Aaron . . . Lade siehet."

Bas ist hier gemeint mit der heiligen Lade? Die Bundeslade. Bie wird der Deckel der Bundeslade genannt? Der Gnabenstuhl.

Bovon war der Gnadenstuhl gemacht? Bon Gold.

Was für Figuren waren auf dem Gnadenstuhl angebracht? Iwei Cherubim.

Wohin waren die Augen der Cherubim gerichtet? Auf den Gnadenstuhl.

Bas befand sich in der Bundeslade unter dem Gnadenstuhl? Die Gesetzestafeln.

Woran mahnt uns Menschen das Gesetz in der Lade? An unsere Sünde.

Bomit wurde aber das Gesetzugedeckt? Mit dem Gnadenstuhl. Boran erinnert uns der Gnadenstuhl, der das Gesetz Gottes zudeckt? An die Gnade Gottes.

Was wird uns durch die Enade Gottes vergeben? Unsere Sünde.

Das Canze ist ein Borbild auf Christum. Wer hat uns nämlich die Enade Gottes und Vergebung der Sünden erworben? FCsus Christus.

Wie nennt daher die Schrift den Hern Chriftum? Den Gnadenstuhl.

Im Römerbrief heißt es von Christo: "welchen Gott hat vorgestellt zu einem Gnadenstuhl durch den Glauben in seinem Blut."

Aber auch von Aarons Stab ist hier die Rede. Wer war Naron? Der erste Hohepriester.

Wie viele Stäbe mußte Woses eines Tages auf Gottes Befehl in die Stiftshütte legen? Zwölf Stäbe.

Bessen Namen mußte er auf den Stab vom Stamme Levi schreiben? Aarons Namen.

Bas zeigte fich dann am nächsten Worgen, als Woses die Stäbe herausholte? Aarons Stab grünte und blühte.

Wo wurde dieser Stab aufgehoben? In der Bundeslade.

Bessen Priestertum wurde durch den grünenden Stab bestätigt? Aarons Priestertum.

Auf wessen Priestertum war aber Aarons Priestertum nur ein Borbild? Auf Christi Priestertum.

Wer ist der eine, wahre Hohepriester? Fesus Christus. So wurde eigentlich Christi Priestertum durch den grünenden Stab bestätigt. Was hat denn Christus, unser Hoherpriester, für uns getan? Er hat für uns das Gesetz erfüllt.

Bas hat er ferner getan? Er hat sich selbst für unsere Sünden geopfert.

Wessen Inade hat er uns dadurch erworben? Gottes Inade. Auf welches Amt Christi deuten beide, der Inadenstuhl wie Narons Stab, hin? Auf das hohepriesterliche Amt Christi.

Die Cherubim schauten herab auf den Enadenstuhl und auf den Stab Aarons. So schaut Gott, der über den Cherubim thront, mit Wohlgefallen herab auf das Werk unsers Hohenpriesters und nimmt es an.

So können wir also gewiß sein: Was haben wir bei Gott durch unsern Hobenpriester, Christum? Wir haben Gnade bei Gott.

Wie heißt es nun weiter im dritten Bers? "Es hat sich Rat, Kraft . . . schwaches Kind."

An welche Weissagung des Alten Testaments schließen sich diese Worte an? "Uns ist ein Kind geboren" usw. (Fes. 9, 6.)

Wie lautet der vierte Bers? "Nun ist . . . erfüllt."

Nach welchem Spruch ist fast der ganze Bers gedichtet? "Da aber die Zeit erfüllet ward" usw.

An welchen Teil des Spruches schließen sich die Worte: "Die Kindschaft ist erworben"? An die Worte: "daß wir die Kindschaft empfingen".

An welchen Teil des Spruches erinnern die Worte: "was unter dem Gesetz... Eifer brüllt"? An die Worte: "auf daß er die, so unter dem Gesetz waren, erlösete".

So haben wir denn unser Lied kurz miteinander betrachtet und gesehen, welche Sprüche darin verwendet worden sind. Zur Hauptaufgabe hat der Dichter sich gestellt, hervorzuheben, daß Christus der im Alten Testament verheißene Wessias ist, und daß die dort gebrauchten Namen ihm gehören.

Wer ist Christus nach dem ersten Bers? Er ist der Mann, der Herr und des Weibes Same.

Wer ist er nach dem zweiten Vers? Er ist der Stern aus Jakob und der Trost Jsraels.

Bas ift er nach dem dritten Bers? Er ist der Gnadenstuhl und unser Hoherpriester.

Dann ist er auch Rat, Kraft, Held, Ewigvater, Friedefürst. über das letzte Wort wollen wir noch ein Kurzes sagen. Was hat Christus, unser Friedefürst, uns gebracht? Er hat uns Frieden gebracht.

Was ift das Gegenteil von Friede? Unfriede.

Zwischen wem war nämlich Unfriede? Zwischen Gott und den Menschen.

Wodurch mar der Unfriede entstanden? Durch die Gunde.

Wer hat aber die Sunde hinweggenommen? Chriftus.

Mit wem hat er uns dadurch wieder versöhnt? Mit Gott. Bas hat er zwischen Gott und den Menschen wiederhergestellt? Den Frieden.

Wer ift er daber? Unfer Friedefürft.

Das bringt uns zu dem Schluftwort unsers Liedes. Wie lautet das? "Gott ruft den Frieden aus."

Bas läßt Gott den Menschen verkündigen? Daß sie mit ihm versöhnt sind.

In welchem Engelgesang läßt Gott den Frieden ausrufen? "Ehre sei Gott in der Höhe, Friede auf Erden und den Menschen ein Wohlgefallen."

Co ichließen wir denn, indem wir fingen:

Drum ftimmt an mit ber Engel Seer: Gott in ber Sobe 'jei nun Chr', Auf Erben Friede jeberzeit, Den Menichen Bonn' und Frohlichfeit! (Rr. 40, 18.)

(Die Ratecheje wurde zuerft in der Schule durchgenommen, damit fie in der Kirche bei ber Kinderfeier fließend gebe.)

Christian Day-Schools of the Lutheran Church.

By W. C. Kohn, President, Concordia Teachers College, River Forest, Ill.

II.

PRESENT ORGANIZATIONS.

The Christian day-school of the Lutheran Church is a voluntary enterprise of a Lutheran congregation, whose members, constrained by nothing but their own personal convictions based on Scriptural truth, vote to establish and maintain a school in their parish. With the adoption of such resolution they mutually agree to send their children to that school. They select and call the teachers, build and equip the schoolhouses, and assess themselves for the support of the teachers and the maintenance of the schools. The congregation is the owner of the schools, and has full control

over them. This is a very important point. It asserts for the congregation the right of supervision. To the congregation God has given the Office of the Keys; hers is the God-given command to preach the Gospel to every creature, and that in all its truth and purity. God has made her the guardian of His decrees. And if the congregation has the duty to see to the purity of the preaching from the pulpit, it cannot deny its duty to see to the purity of the teaching in its school.

This supervision is exercised by the pastor. The pastor is the shepherd and overseer of his flock. "Take heed therefore unto yourselves and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers to feed the Church of God." Acts 20, 28. The pastor, therefore, is the supervisor of the school, of both teacher and pupils, by virtue of the office given him by God. The souls of the children are entrusted to him, he is responsible for them.

This supervision extends over religious instruction and secular branches, over the latter in so far as they are the means of training. As branches of learning and knowledge, secular studies are under the supervision of the congregation, and this supervision is generally exercised by a school board.

The very fact, then, that the congregation has the right and duty of supervision, implies that the congregation will see to it that the Word of God be taught in it in all its truth and purity, and that the secular studies be taught in the spirit of the Holy Scriptures. (Eighth Proc., p. 18.)

In exceptionally few instances a so-called "school society" is organized by the members of the congregation, who alone contribute to the erection and maintenance of the school, leaving the institution, however, under full control of the congregation.

Since the Lutheran doctrine concerning the means of grace, that the Word of God is the incorruptible seed through which the soul is born again, and the firm conviction that education does not mean only the acquiring of knowledge of fundamental subjects, but is mainly the building up of a truly Christian character, which cannot be done except under the continual influence of the Scriptural Christ ideal, this makes it imperative for the members of the congregation to insist upon an early and thorough instruction of the young.

The parents are expected to send their children to the Christian day-school in preference to any other, although such attendance is not made compulsory, moral and religious persuasion being the only methods in dealing with indifferent parents.

The basis on which the Christian day-school is organized is the same as that of the public school in all its details, except that it devotes the first hour of each day to religious instruction, and that the secular branches are taught in the spirit of Holy Writ. The material used in the religious instruction are: Bible-reading, Biblestories, Luther's Small Catechism, with proof-texts and explanations, Church prayers, and the most important Lutheran hymns. The text-books on secular subjects are either those used by the public school, or such as are published by the educators of the Church, written in harmony with the doctrinal truths of the Church. The medium of instruction is mostly the English language. The religious instruction is graded similarly to that of secular topics. In the first three grades the children are taught simple Bible-stories, the text of the chief parts of Luther's Small Catechism, and several morning and evening prayers. In the fourth and fifth grades an additional number of Bible-stories with application to experiences in the child's life, a supplement of prooftexts, and Lutheran hymns are taught. The sixth, seventh, and eighth grades comprise a thorough repetition of the entire Catechism, and Bible-stories with a brief survey of the first three centuries of Church History and an intensive study of the Reformation.

The greatest number of the Christian day-schools in the larger cities are accredited by the educational authorities.

The spirit prevailing in these schools of the Synodical Conference is patriotic in the true sense of the Word. The education of the teachers vouches a spirit true to its government. In the Schulblatt, one of the foremost pedagogical periodicals of the Lutheran Church, the following interesting article on page 67, 1918, may be read:—

"It is evident that the Lutheran teacher always thoroughly understood, and understands to this day, the duties of his calling as an American teacher.

"But by which methods and in what manner does the Lutheran teacher inculcate true Christian patriotism? Many people in our days have considered and extensively practised as one of the best means for instilling patriotism in the hearts and minds of children as well as adults to hoist the flag and display the stars and stripes, to unfurl the national colors in bunting, and to carry patriotic banners and buttons. But all this is of little, in fact, of no avail, and will never create true patriotism in the hearts of the children or of a citizen. The hoisting of the flag, the display of the national colors, the cheering and shouting, the singing of songs

and anthems, cannot be a means of creating patriotism, but is the effect of a cause—it is the demonstration of the passion called patriotism. Patriotism must be present first, and then all that will follow. Patriotism must be the source from which such demonstrations emanate as natural manifestations of the sentiment within.

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"Still, all this is done in Lutheran schools also, but not without teaching the children the reason why they should thus manifest their love of the flag: by teaching them American History; by explaining to them the free institutions of our government; by reading the literature of our men of letters; by picturing to them the valor and the heroic deeds of our great men, thus endearing our country with the splendid liberty it offers its citizens to our children.

"But to inculcate true patriotism the Lutheran school-teacher has still better methods and means than those already mentioned. He has the greatest of all text-books, the Bible. The children are taught to regard it as the Word of God, which they must receive, not as a collection of truths and a code of morals originating with wise and good men, but as the revelation of their Creator, Savior, and Regenerator, the Triune God. Being thus impressed with the transcendent greatness of this Word, and being born again by the Gospel, the hearts and minds of the children will be willing to hear and obey its commands and admonitions. And this Word, which is given by inspiration of God, teaches them that civil government is an ordinance of God; Rom. 13, 1: 'For there is no power but of God; the powers that be are ordained of God.' Dan. 2, 21: 'God removeth kings and setteth up kings.' God has not ordained a particular form of government, nor does He, by express revelation, designate this or that person whom He wants to be at the head of a government; but the government itself is ordained of God, be it a monarchy, an aristocracy, or a democracy, the last of which is considered the best form of government by the people of our country. All persons who are invested with the power of government, and as long as they hold and exercise this power, shall be regarded and respected as an ordinance of God, - 'whether it be the king, as supreme, or the governors, as unto them that are sent by him.' 1 Pet. 2, 13. 14; 1 Tim. 2, 1-3.

"And which are the duties of subjection and obedience which are enjoined in the commandments concerning civil government?

"The pupils of Lutheran schools are exhorted to honor the government, and to show reverence to the magistrates. Rom. 13, 7.

Next to the fear of God, St. Peter places the honor rendered the king (government), saving: 'Fear God. Honor the king.' 1 Pet. 2, 17. Honor also includes speaking respectfully of such persons. Ex. 22, 28 God commanded His people: 'Thou shalt not curse the ruler of thy people,' and Eccl. 10, 20: 'Curse not the king, no, not in thy thought, . . . nor in thy bedchamber,' in the most sacred place, and those are reckoned as the vilest and the most abandoned among men who 'despise dominion' (the government) and are not afraid to speak 'evil of dignities.' Jude 8; 2 Pet. 2, 10. This, however, does not mean that a Christian may not criticize the government, or persons holding an office under the government, in a respectful manner. Herod, a wicked prince, was reproved by John the Baptist, and a reason was given for it. David was reprimanded by Nathan the prophet, a reproach which he clothed in a parable, waiting for an opportune moment to apply it. But language such as Shimei used in lashing David was extremely disrespectful and sinful.

"In their religious text-books the children of Lutheran schools are instructed to pray for their government. The following Biblepassage is adduced: 'I exhort therefore that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, . . . and for all that are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God, our Savior.' 1 Tim. 2, 1-3. They are exhorted to submit to all laws and ordinances that are not contrary to the Word of God and the fundamental and constitutional laws of the nation: 'Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake.' 1 Pet. 2, 13. 14. Rom. 13 adds the warning not to strive against the government: 'Whosoever, therefore, resisteth the power resisteth the ordinance of God; and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation.' Following this is an admonition to support and uphold the government by payment of all lawful tributes, taxes, and customs, which is not only taught by the apostles, but confirmed by Christ's own example and practise. Matt. 22, 21; 17, 27. Since the government cannot be upheld without such methods, and without government no man's life and property could be safe, everybody being exposed to thieves, robbers, murderers, and all kinds of criminals, no illicit methods should be taken by any one to defeat the payment of tribute and taxes, but especially not 'for the Lord's sake.' And finally the children are instructed and exhorted to seek the welfare of their country. The earnest appeal of Jeremiah is held up to them (chap. 29, 7):

'Seek the peace of the city, . . . and pray unto the Lord for it; for in the peace thereof shall ye have peace.'

"These are the principles regarding civil government and the conduct of its subjects towards the same as impressed upon the soul and mind of every Lutheran schoolchild by repeated and emphatic admonitions.

"Let us now consult Webster's or the New Standard Dictionary, and learn what patriotism is according to their explanation, and then compare the principles instilled in the Lutheran schools, in order to render a fair judgment. We find the following definitions: 'Patriotism is love of, and devotion to, one's country, the spirit . . . that prompts to obedience to its laws, to the support of its existence, rights, and institutions, and to the promotion of its welfare.' A patriot is 'one who loves his country, and zealously supports and upholds its institutions and interests.'

"Now, then: A true Lutheran prays for his country (prayer involves love and devotion); he conscientiously obeys all laws and regulations that are not contrary to the Word of God nor to the constitution of his country; he supports and upholds its institutions and interests, and seeks the welfare of his country. And all this is done, not because he yields to force, or to gain some personal advantage, but because God, his Creator, Savior, and Regenerator, commands him to do so."

THE TEACHER OF THE CHRISTIAN DAY-SCHOOL.

It has been customary in the Synodical Conference since the past seventy years to draw the teachers from their own rank and file. The teachers of the Christian day-schools, as well as the pastor, who is ex officio superintendent of the school in his parish, are continually on the lookout for bright boys in their schools. Having found a strong, healthy, and studious lad, they try to convince him and his parents of the necessity of good educators. On the decision of both the parents and the boy he is sent to one of the normal schools of the Church. The Missouri Synod has two such schools, one at Seward, Nebr., for the West, and the other at River Forest, Ill., which is quite large, modern, and exceedingly well equipped.

At these institutions tuition is entirely free; all expenses for salaries, equipments, and repairs are defrayed by the synodical body. Ways and means are found to support even indigent students.

The institution at Seward has an enrolment of 135, and Concordia Teachers College at River Forest, 225 students.

These colleges offer a high school course of four years and a normal course of two years. Entrance requirements for the normal course are twenty credits of high school work. The courses are: Isagogics, Sacred History, Church History, Exposition in Dogmatics, Pedagogy, Psychology, Teacher's Course in Music, English, German, Mathematics, General Science, General Biology, Nature Study (including field work), Chemistry, Geography, Physiography, Physiology, and Music (harmony, organ, and piano). The object of such education is not only to offer the student an opportunity to obtain a general education, but also to train him in the practical, technical, and vocational work which the profession of a religious teacher requires. For the achievement of this aim a training-school is connected with the colleges, where the members of the Senior class are given ample opportunity to observe and to practise the art of teaching under the immediate supervision of two competent critic teachers. The training offers the students special advantages, because there they are confronted with actual school conditions, and are led and directed to meet these conditions according to the most approved methods, thus making a practical study of school conditions, school administration, school methods, and schoolchildren. At the same time they continue with their regular studies. This correlation between practise-teaching and classroom-study of great subjects strengthens and broadens each part of a professional course, and helps the normal teacher to keep his classwork in close touch with the every-day work of the schools, and to adapt it more fully to the practical needs of the student.

Before the student enters the last year, he is given an opportunity to serve as supply or substitute teacher in different schools. He is required to do consecutive work in some specific grade of a large school, or practise-work in all grades in a country school. If his work as substitute is efficient, he enters the class of candidates, and if his work remains satisfactory, he is recommended as a permanent teacher at the end of the school-year.

The institution at River Forest, Ill., has a fine museum, with an abundance of museum material, located centrally in order to be in close connection with the classrooms. The material is not used for the sake of satisfying the visitors' curiosity, but for educative purposes.

In order to acquaint the students with the best talent in art, weekly lectures and recitals (song, organ, and piano) are given them by well-known artists. This tends to spur the students onward,

and gives them a wider range and an idea of the achievements which can be reached.

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For the teaching of science a complete chemical laboratory is equipped, ready for use at all times.

For the instruction in music and for practising, eight pipeorgans and twenty pianos are at the disposal of the students at regular periods.

Courses of Study.

The College offers a high school course of four years and a normal divinity course of two years. Entrance requirements for the normal course are twenty credits of high school work.

In the High School Department the following courses are given: —

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English:—		
General Literature	1	unit.
American Literature	1	66
English Literature	1	66
Composition and Rhetoric	1	44
German : —		
3. Modern prose and poetry. Elementary composition and		
grammar	1	66
4. Advanced prose and poetry. Advanced grammar	1	66
5. Study of German classics. Essay course	1	66
6. Outline of German Literature, from earliest times to Heine.		
Theory of composition	1	66
7. Study of Schiller, Goethe, Herder, Lessing, etc. The modern		
essay	1	46
Mathematics:		
Advanced arithmetic	1	66
Algebra (to quadratics)	1	66
Algebra (through quadratics)		
Plane geometry	1	66
History:		
Ancient		
Medieval and modern	1	66
U. S. (advanced course)	1	66
Biblical	1	66 .
General Science	_	66
General Biology	1	66
Nature Study	î	66
Chemistry	•	
Geography	1	66
Physiography		66
Elementary Dogmatics	1	66
Music (harmony, organ, and piano)	•	
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One-unit credit is the equivalent of 150 class periods of sixty

The Normal Divinity Department offers the following courses:

Pedagogy: History of Education. Principles of Education. Psychology.

Methods.

Teachers' Courses: Reading. Grammar. German. Arithmetic. History. Penmanship. Drawing. Catechetics.

Courses in Literature and Rhetoric: American. English. German.

Isagogics.

Sacred History.

Church History.

Exposition in Dogmatics.

Teachers' Course in Music.

Practise Teaching in the Training-school.

IMPROVEMENT OF TEACHERS.

Since the last four years, agencies for the improvement of teachers both during the period of preparation and while in office have been increasing in efficiency and in number. One of the most potent agencies is the "Teachers' Conference." The Synod is divided into districts, and the teachers within each district form a conference. The attendance at these conferences is obligatory. These conferences convene from two to four times annually. In their meetings they follow the plan of intensely discussing one or two topics, assigning one speaker to present an outline of the problem or topic according to his conviction. When his statement has been made, the discussion is opened to the representatives of different opinions and of different localities. It is evident that this will concentrate the attention of all to the topic under discussion, and enable every one to render an intelligent decision when at the close of the discussion the proposal for adoption or rejection of the essayist's views is passed upon by vote. Each year these district conferences send one or more representatives to a general conference, which convenes annually in one of the larger cities, and in which topics concerning the national welfare of the Christian dayschools are ventilated. The Missouri Synod has appointed a committee or an editorial staff which publishes a pedagogical magazine, the SCHULBLATT, monthly in the interest of the school and the teacher.

Lutheran Normal Colleges reported at the beginning of the year 1918:—

Wartburg Teachers' Seminary, Waverly, Iowa (Iowa Synod): 11 teachers, 158 students.

Lutheran Normal School, Madison, Minn. (United Norwegian Church): 9 teachers, 157 students.

Lutheran Normal School, Sioux Falls, S. Dak. (Norwegian Synod): 11 teachers, 210 students.

Immanuel Lutheran Normal, Greensboro, N. C. (Colored; Synodical Conference): 4 teachers, 56 students.

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Concordia Teachers College, River Forest, Ill. (Missouri Synod): 13 teachers, 231 students.

Lutheran Teachers' Seminary, Seward, Nebr. (Missouri Synod): 9 teachers, 152 students.

Evangelical Lutheran Normal School, Woodville, O. (Ohio Synod): 5 teachers, 62 students.

At various other colleges, seminaries, and academies of the Lutheran church-bodies normal courses are given for the preparation of teachers for the Christian day-schools.

THE OFFICE OF THE CHRISTIAN DAY-SCHOOL TEACHER.

The teacher of the Lutheran day-school is called as an assistant to the pastor (Gehilfe des Pastors), and before he enters upon his duties, he is installed in the capacity of a "regular" minister of religion, whereupon he takes the oath of office that he will well and truly conform to the principles of religion as quoted in the official Hand Book, Confessions, and Holy Writ as taught by said synod. And as such it is his regular and customary vocation to teach the principles of religion to the children of the congregation which called him. His duties further consist in teaching and preaching in regular catechetical services, and in conducting the reading service in the absence of the duly ordained pastor. Thus the teacher not only makes the teaching of the principles of religion his life vocation, but he is primarily engaged in teaching such principles to the children of the congregation. Where the congregation is too small to engage such assistant to the pastor to look after the spiritual welfare of the children and young people, this duty devolves upon the duly ordained minister. For the reason that the teacher of the Lutheran day-school is principally engaged in religious work, assisting the pastor in taking care of the spiritual welfare of the children, he is looked upon by the Synod, as well as by the individual congregation, as a regular minister of religion. Dr. C. F. W. Walther states in the Handbook for Pastoral Duties:

"The minister, therefore, must never forget that the teacher is one of those who minister to the church, that he conducts his office as assistant to the pastor, and in this respect, therefore, he is coordinate." (Translated from Walther's Pastorale, p. 391.)

"The teachers of the Christian day-school hold an office of the congregation, because they teach the Word of God, and all their

other instruction is in harmony with this Word. Such teachers must be properly trained. Men are needed who are well trained and qualified to teach the fundamentals of the Lutheran doctrine, and all worldly knowledge necessary in a common school education, the latter, of course, always in harmony with Scripture. These teachers are to conduct Lutheran schools; in consequence they must be Lutherans, must accept the Lutheran doctrine as their own, must promise publicly and openly that they accept the confessions of the Lutheran Church as their own, and that all their teachings and their actions be in harmony with them." (From "Proceedings of the Eighth Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod," p. 22.)

SCHOOL-BUILDINGS.

Within the last years the Lutheran church-bodies have made remarkable improvements in school-buildings of cities and large towns, as well as in building for country schools. Many of them are approaching the ideal schoolhouse. Every site selected must be a location comparatively level, and situated so that it can be kept dry, with enough space for a good playground. Buildings, lighting, floors, water supply, toilet facilities, and other items are arranged according to the bulletin published by the Bureau of Education at Washington edited by Fletcher B. Dressler, and according to the rules and regulations of the city, county, and state.

SUPERVISION.

Besides the supervision exercised by the congregation and its pastor, the Lutheran Church has elected a General Board to improve upon its entire school system, and each District has elected a Supervisory Board for the supervision of the schools in its territory. The District Board is in close connection with the General Board, and must make semiannual reports. In some localities the following system prevails: Each synodical District comprising one or two States has elected boards, whose duties are to inspect schools, to hear appeals concerning school-matters, to see that the curriculum and the lesson-schedule adopted by the Church are carried out, so that the aim set for the school is achieved, to make a summary of the statistics, to oversee the educational work in their locality involving about fifteen schools, and to make the necessary reports to the District Boards.

The second administrative unit is the District Board. This Board receives the reports of the local boards, and improves upon

a uniform curriculum and schedule by comparing the reports from the various localities. In some instances, like in the Northern Illinois District of the Synodical Conference, a Superintendent of Schools is elected, who is chosen by popular vote at the District convention. It is his duty to visit the schools, examine the teachers, call institutes, hear appeals in school-matters, and superintend the educational interests of the District. In all Districts there is a Board which cooperates with the Superintendent.

Thus the Lutheran Church has provided, and is still endeavoring to provide, for free Christian day-schools better courses of instruction and abler teachers, who, consecrated to their calling, have selected the teaching profession as their life-vocation, and are willing to learn and broaden their views.

STATISTICS.

According to the reports offered by the representatives of the different synods of the Lutheran Church, the status of the Lutheran parochial school is as follows:—

The German Iowa Synod reports 416 schools, 52 teachers, 400 pastors teaching in school, 14,130 pupils, 38,847 members, and 128,219 communicant members.

The Lutheran Free Church reports 210 schools, 255 teachers, 6,500 pupils.

The Joint Synod of Ohio and Other States reports 281 schools, 109 teachers, 9,391 pupils, 200 pastors teaching in school, 206,198 members, 139,015 communicant members.

The United Synod in the South has no Christian day-school. It has a membership of 73,510 and a communicant membership of 53,226.

From the General Synod no Christian day-school has been reported. Its baptized membership is 474,740, and its communicant membership is 364,072.

The General Council is composed of 13 synods, with 610 schools, 747 teachers, and 24,605 pupils. Its baptized membership is 760,441 and its communicant membership 531,978.

The Eilson's Synod reports 6 Christian day-schools, 6 pastors teaching in school, 300 pupils, a baptized membership of 1,567, and a communicant membership of 1,232.

The Danish Lutheran Church reports 84 schools, 84 teachers, 2,230 pupils, 21,491 baptized members, and 14,463 communicant members.

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The German Immanuel Synod has reported no change from the last issue, in which she stands with 15 schools, 15 teachers, and 823 pupils.

From the Icelandic Synod and the United Danish Lutheran Church no parochial school work has been reported.

The Finnish Suomi Synod reports 61 schools, 65 teachers, 3,998 pupils, 32,541 baptized members, and 16,511 communicant members.

The Norwegian Lutheran Church of America reports 853 schools, 1,283 teachers, 50,371 pupils, 485 baptized members, and 300,000 communicant members.

The Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States reports 2,213 schools, 1,173 pastors teaching in school, 1,450 teachers, 96,737 pupils, 1,000,914 baptized members, and 613,798 communicant members.

The Wisconsin Synod reports 250 schools, 173 teachers, 16,412 pupils, a baptized membership of 190,946, and a communicant membership of 155,261.

The Minnesota Synod has 120 schools, 41 teachers, 11,593 pupils, 37,537 baptized members, and 26,319 communicant members.

The Michigan Synod has 76 schools, 27 teachers, 6,837 pupils, 23,124 baptized members, and 12,121 communicant members.

The District of Nebraska has 25 schools, 11 teachers, 1,210 pupils, 7,815 baptized members, and 5,969 communicant members.

The Slovac Synod reports 30 schools, 6 teachers, 1,614 pupils, 12,970 baptized members, and 8,570 communicant members.

Grades: 1.	. 2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.
Religion	150	150	150	150	150	150	150
Memorizing 75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75
English	670	600	500	465	435	400	400
Arithmetic125	125	165	200	200	200	200	200
Drawing 60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
Geography and Nature 30	60	60	85	90	90	90	90
History and Civies		30	90	120	120	125	125
Physiology			-		30	30	30
Music 80	- 80	80	60	60	60	60	60
Penmanship	75	75	75	75	75	75	* 75
Physical Education 30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
Sciences	_	-	_	_	_	30	30
German100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Recesses 75	_	-	_	_	_	_	
Bible History —	-	75	75	75	75	75	75

"Wollt ihr auch weggeben?"

"Wie wir vernehmen, find es in Cook County 16 Lehrer, die ihre Stellungen niedergelegt haben." So las ich fürzlich in der Chicagoer "Concordia", und der nächste Gedanke, der dann aufstieg, war: Wie viele mögen es dann wohl im ganzen Lande sein? Es ist das eine äußerst betrübende Wahrnehmung, besonders in dieser sür unsere Schulen so kritischen Zeit. Unsere Schulen sind vielsach bedroht, der Teufel möchte die jetzige Weltlage und die damit verbundene Aufregung der Gemüter gern dazu benutzen, umsere Schulen aus der Welt zu schaffen, und nun treten die, die am ersten dazu berusen sind, sie zu verteidigen und zu helsen, daß sie uns erhalten bleiben, vom Kampfplat zurück.

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Man hörte wohl früher hin und wieder die Bemerkung: es liege den Gemeinden nicht mehr sehr viel an ihren Schulen, es sei nur eine Frage der Zeit, so würden sie eingehen. Und es mag den Anschein gehabt haben, als ob mancherorts die Gemeinden in ihrem Eifer für ihre Schulen etwas nachgelassen hätten und gleichgültig geworden wären. Man ließ und läßt es auch wohl an der nötigen Berjorgung der Lehrer fehlen. Als aber dann unfer Land den gegen die Zentralmächte Europas kämpfenden Alliierten beitrat, blieben auch unsere Schulen nicht verschont. Und nun, als die Gemeinden merkten, daß der alte boje Feind ihnen ihre Gotteshäufer für die Rleinen, ihre Schulen, bedrohe und sie ihnen nur zu gern nehmen möchte, da find sie zur Befinnung gekommen; sie haben einen Rückblick getan auf das, was Gott durch diese Schulen in unserer Synode ausgerichtet hat. Sie haben auf ihre Kinder gesehen, die in der Schule im Worte Gottes treulich und fleißig unterrichtet und fest gegründet worden find, damit fie in dieser gerrütteten, gottlosen Welt ihre Seelen retten möchten. Man lernt oft eine Gabe erst dann hochschätzen, wenn fie einem genommen werden foll. So auch Mit neuem Eifer, mit frischem Mut treten die Gemeinden wieder für ihre Schulen ein. Davon zeugen die 72 Berufe, die der Berteilungskommission im Juni vorlagen; davon zeugen die großen Aufnahmen von Kindern, die unsere Schulen zum Teil bei ihrer Eröffnung nach den Ferien gehabt haben.1)

Und nun könnte man sich ja von Herzen freuen, denn es steht noch gut bei uns, wenn unsere Gemeinden ihre Schulen hochschätzen, wenn sie bereit sind, auch in Zukunft die altgewohnten und selbst

¹⁾ Bon ben 62 Bitaren bie unser St. Louiser Seminar bieses Jahr aus= gesandt hat, bienen 50 zugleich auch in ber Schule. — Die Reb.

noch größere Opfer für sie zu bringen. Es steht noch gut bei den einzelnen Christen, wenn sie das Seelenheil ihrer Kinder obenan stellen; denn dabei fällt auch für sie allemal etwas ab. Es steht auch gut bei den einzelnen Kindern, die täglich zu den Füßen ihrer treuen Lehrer sitzen und lernen, an alle ihre Handlungen den Mäßstad des Wortes Gottes zu legen; das ist dann für sie ein zwerlässiger Stab, an dem sie die beschwerliche und gefährliche Reise durchs Leben antreten können. O wie glücklich sind diese Kinder zu preisen!

Ich fage das, weil ich neulich etwas überaus Trauriges gelesen Ein bekannter Professor nahm eine gute Kopie des berühmten Gemäldes von Leonardo da Binci, das heilige Abendmahl darstellend, mit sich in die öffentliche Schule einer großen Stadt. Ob sein Interesse in der Sache nur ein psychologisches oder ein christliches war, bleibe dahingestellt. Er zeigte nun dieses Bild einer großen Gruppe von Kindern in der Schule, um zu erfahren, was fie von dem Bilde im allgemeinen und von einzelnen Personen auf dem Bilde fagen könnten. Und was war das Ergebnis? Auch nicht ein Rind kannte die Person des Seilandes, nicht ein Kind kannte die dargestellte Sandlung! Der Professor fing an, Fragen zu stellen; aber obichon die Kinder bemüht waren, aus dem Bilde etwas zu machen, so blieben ihre Bemühungen doch erfolglos. Die Sauptperson, sagte ein Kind, sei George Bashington, und ein anderes meinte: "It must be a party." Wenn der Professor ein Bild von den Theaterberühmtheiten Charlie Chaplin und Mary Pickford gebracht hätte, würde der Erfolg wohl ein anderer gewesen sein. Eine weitere Untersuchung ergab, daß viele der Kinder regelmäßige Besucher dieser oder jener Sonntagsschule waren.2) Die armen Kinder! Der Beiland ist ihnen ein Fremdling, sie kennen ihn nicht. Darum jage ich nochmals: Wie glücklich sind unsere Kinder, die christliche Lehrer haben und durch fie ihren Seiland kennen gelernt haben!

Aber nun kommt der Wermutstropfen: 16 Lehrer in Cook County haben ihre Stellungen niedergelegt, und wenn man Umfrage bei den Präsides unserer Synode halten würde, so erführe man auch, wie groß die Zahl in der ganzen Synode ist.

Nun fragt vielleicht jemand: Bas hast du denn vor, daß du immer wieder von denen redest, die ihr Amt niedergelegt haben, und von Bermutstropsen? Billst du, wie es scheint, über alle diese Leute den Stab brechen und sie der Untreue oder der Fahnenslucht

²⁾ Mögen bies biejenigen bebenten, die in dem Unterricht in den Sonntagssischulen einen Ersat finden wollen für den täglichen Religionsunterricht in unsern Wochenschulen.

beschuldigen? Davor soll mich der liebe Gott bewahren; das wäre in der Tat unverantwortlich. Es könnte sein, daß, wenn mir jemand, der diesen Schritt getan hat, die Ursachen und Umstände angäbe, die ihn dazu bewogen haben, ich dann sagen würde: "Du hast nicht recht getan, als du dein Amt niederlegtest, du bist in der Tat sahnenslüchtig geworden." Aber da mir derartiges nicht bekannt ist, so handle ich nach der Liebe, und die glaubet alles, hosset alles und duldet alles. Aber das darf und will ich sagen — und alle treuen Lehrer sagen es mit mir —, daß es aufsallend und sehr zu beklagen ist, wenn gerade jetz, in dieser Zeit der Rot, so viele Lehrer ihr Amt nicht weitersühren.

Nicht zu Gericht sitzen will ich, sondern nur in aller Liebe ein paar Worte an die Lehrer richten, die noch im Amte stehen und vielleicht auch im Zweisel sind, ob sie nicht wegen dieser oder jener Not, in der sie stecken, berechtigt sind, einen andern, gewöhnlich gewinnbringenderen Beruf zu ergreisen. Ich brauche keine Worte darüber zu verlieren, daß jede Lehrkraft in der Synode unentbehrlich ist, und daß eine Lehrernot herrscht wie seit langem nicht. Diese große Not ist zum Teil durch die Amtsniederlegung so vieler Lehrer entstanden. Die Gesahr ist da, daß eine Anzahl Schulen im Laufe diese Jahres werden unbesetzt bleiben müssen. Der liebe Gott gibt uns also die Kinder, und wir können sie nicht versorgen, denn viele Lehrer scheiden aus dem Amt.

Run frage ich: Bas hat denn alle diese Sahre, solange die Synode besteht, die Lehrer bewogen, in ihrem Beruf treulich auszuharren, auch unter den schwierigsten, unangenehmsten Verhältnissen? Bar es etwa irdischer Gewinn? Rein, Gott sei's geklagt, mancher Lehrer hat Not gelitten. Aber er blieb ein Diener Gottes in großer Geduld, oft in Fasten. War es etwa die Ehre, die daß Amt ihm eintrug bei den Menschen? Die Welt schaute ihn über die Achseln an. "That's one of those 'Dutch' teachers!" War es etwa ein bequemes, gemütliches Leben? Auch das nicht, besonders in unsern Tagen nicht, wo jeder Nerv angespannt werden muß, wenn die Forderungen, die man an den Lehrer stellt, erfüllt werden sollen. War es etwa Mangel an Kenntniffen, an Geschicklichkeit, daß man fie sonst nirgends brauchen konnte? O nein, man stellt fie da gern an, wenn man fie haben kann, wo man geschickte, zuverlässige, ehrliche Leute braucht, zum Beispiel in Banken und als Kassierer in Geschäftshäusern. Und so könnte ich noch viele Fragen stellen, die ich alle mit Nein beantworten mußte. Es war allein die Liebe gu ihrem Beilande; die hat sie stark gemacht, alle Widerwärtigkeiten zu ertragen, allen Berlodungen zu widerstehen. Es ist etwas Großes um diese Liebe; sie

ist stärker als der Tod. Und nun stelle man sich vor, der SErr Fesus hätte alle unsere Lehrer um sich versammelt, und er stellte ihnen die Frage, die er einst an seine Fünger richtete, als ihn so viele verließen, die Frage: "Wollt ihr auch weggehen?" Joh. 6, 69. Würde es wohl einer übers Herz bringen, ihm den Rücken zu kehren? Nicht wenn er ihn aufrichtig liebt.

Aber es läßt fich doch vielleicht manche Stimme hören, die fich entschuldigen will. Einer spricht: 3ch habe in meinem Beruf mein Auskommen nicht mehr; ich muß die Meinigen versorgen. Haft du es denn deiner Gemeinde schon gesagt, in welcher Notlage du steckst, und hat fie fich geweigert, dich mit dem Nötigen zu verforgen? Eine solche Gemeinde würde damit allerdings eine schwere Berantwortung auf fich laden. — Einem andern ift fein Beruf durch allerlei unliebsame Borkommnisse verleidet, und er spürt wenig oder gar keinen Erfolg. Ach, die Erfolge werden uns nicht immer schwarz auf weiß auf einem Präsentierteller überreicht. Bielleicht klingt dir in dieser Beit vom Schlachtfelde in Frankreich ber ein Erfolg beiner Wirkfamkeit herüber, wenn der Sohn an seine Mutter dahier schreibt: "Ich habe es in der Schule gelernt, daß ich allezeit in Gottes Sand stehe; er kann mich im dicksten Augelregen wider alle Fährlichkeiten beichirmen und vor allem übel behüten und bewahren." Ift das fein Erfolg? Und wir haben Taufende von unfern Jünglingen drüben, die dasselbe in unsern Schulen gelernt haben und ebenso denken und ihren Lehrern für den treuen Unterricht danken. Und wie viele Erfolge bleiben dir unbekannt! Wenn Gott dir einmal die Augen öffnen wollte wie dem Anaben Gehafi, dem Diener des Propheten Elija, 2 Kön. 6, 17, so würdest du staunen und dankbar sein, wenn du so viele deiner früheren Schüler in Gottesfurcht durchs Leben könntest wandeln sehen.

Jedoch diese Erfolge eines treuen Lehres, die Dienste, die er dem Staat und der Kirche leistet, fallen nicht in die Augen. Wenn ein Architekt und Baumeister einen großartigen Bau aufführt, so staut die Welt, und die Namen der Baumeister gehen auf die Nachwelt über. Aber wo ist denn der Salomonische Tempel, und was wird einst aus dem Kölner Dom und dem Straßburger Münster werden? Staub und Asche. Und wenn alles, was hier glänzte und hervorragte, vergessen und vernichtet ist, wenn das große Ergebnis der Rechnung gezogen wird vor Gottes Thron, dann wird die Arbeit eines treuen Lehrers erst recht zur Geltung kommen; denn er hat für die Ewigkeit gearbeitet. Er wird ein schönes Gesolge haben und zu seinem Geiland sprechen: "Siehe, hie bin ich und die Kinder, die du mir gegeben hast!" Und es wird an ihm dann auch das Wort

wahr werden: "Die Lehrer werden leuchten wie des Himmels Glang", Dan. 12. 3.

Nicht wahr, lieber Lehrer, du hast die Antwort fertig auf die Frage deines Heilandes: "Wollt ihr auch weggehen?"

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(Bs. im "Lutheraner".)

Minnesota State Examination.

The Board of Education of the Minnesota District of the Ev. Luth. Missouri Synod has compiled a list of books, which it recommends through its Secretary, Mr. W. J. Joseph, to be used in preparing for State examination. Any person mastering the contents of these books will succeed in passing the examination in Minnesota.

I. PENMANSHIP. Palmer Method, A. N. Palmer Co., Chicago.

II. Spelling. Former examination papers. Difficult words from spellers. Words from newspapers pertaining to current events. Cook & O'Shea, The Child and His Spelling.

III. HISTORY, U. S. New American History, by Hart; American Book Co., Chicago. History of the American People, by Beard and Bagley; Macmillan Co. Study the coming peace negotiations.

IV. Geography. Brigham & MacFarlane, American Book Co.

— Method: Sutherland, Teaching of Geography. Outlines by Link.

V. ARITHMETIC. Hamilton's Standard Arithmetic, by Finney and Brown; Holt & Co., Chicago. — Method: Brown & Coffman.

VI. GRAMMAR. Miller's Modern Grammar. Outlines in Grammar, by G. Howard, 1281 Raymond Ave., St. Paul. — Method: The Teaching of English Grammar, by F. Barbour; Ginn & Co., Chicago.

VII. COMPOSITION. Practical English Composition, by Gerrish and Cunningham; Heath & Co. Composition and Rhetoric, by Herrick and Damon; Scott, Foresman & Co. — Method: Chubb, The Teaching of English. Mahoney, Standards in English; World Book Co., Chicago.

VIII. READING. Huey, History and Pedagogy in Reading. Klapper, Teaching Children How to Read; Appleton & Co., Chicago. Find out what readers are used in your county suitable for the various grades.

IX. Civics. Ashley, The New Civics, Macmillan Co. Howard's Outlines; Fehner's Outlines.

X. Physiology. Overton's Applied Physiology Advanced; American Book Co. Outlines by Link.

For all branches: Minnesota Course of Study; Minnesota State Teachers' Examinations; Questions and Answers; Northwestern School Supply Co., Minneapolis. Charters, Teaching the Common Branches. Freeman, The Psychology of the Common Branches.

Would the other boards, elected by their respective Districts, also send their recommendations regarding State examinations to the Schulblatt and keep us informed? W. C. K.

The Need of Teachers' Training-Classes.

An article appearing in *The Inlander* of Ann Arbor and reprinted in part by the *New York American* of July 7, 1918, tells of an interesting experiment conducted by Prof. Scott of Michigan University, which revealed what the latter paper calls "the rather startling fact that present-day American schoolchildren are deplorably unfamiliar with the features of the Savior as represented in religious art." The test was made in a public school of one of the largest cities of Michigan, and the most significant observation made was that not one of the children could identify the central figure in Leonardo da Vinci's picture of "The Last Supper" as that of Christ, nor could a single one state the subject of this most famous painting. All were agreed that the people about the table were "having a party," and when asked why they were not eating, the answers were: "They are not hungry," "They are all through," "They stopped to laugh at something," and the like.

There is no doubt that, had the test been made, the same ignorance would have been found regarding the life and work of Jesus. This may be "remarkable"; it ought to be "startling," but it is not surprising. Nothing else can be expected from the methods and practises of the great majority of the American churches. Where children receive religious instruction every day of the week, such unfamiliarity with Christ and Bible History is unthinkable.* Of twenty-eight pupils examined in a Roman Catholic school each one pointed out the figure of the Savior, and twenty-six answered, "They are eating the Lord's Supper." The same gratifying results can be expected in our parochial schools. But even where the church cannot take the whole education of the child in hand, but must content itself with only an hour on Sunday,

^{*} Italies our own. - ED.

the religious ignorance of the American youth is an indictment against it. The church is not doing its duty. The Sunday-school is looked upon as an institution to supply enjoyable entertainment for the children of the community. Games and contests and everchanging "fads" have crowded the religious instruction into the background, yes, completely out of the school. Fairy-tales are employed to drive home moral lessons. Under such conditions there is nothing surprising in the discovery that the children instantly recognize Charley Chaplin, Douglas Fairbanks, or Mary Pickford, but see a stranger in their Savior. Thank God that in our Lutheran Sunday-schools the imparting of religious knowledge, the teaching of Bible History and of the fundamentals of Christian doctrine is still the heart and kernel of all instruction, and the one and only aim and purpose.

But let us not in proud self-satisfaction consider our schools perfect for this reason. There are certain things which we can learn even from such schools as referred to above. Sunday-school work is a comparatively new and neglected field in our circles, while other denominations look back upon many, many years of experience and experimenting. And there is one feature which, with proper adaptation, should be imitated by us: the teachers' trainingclass. By that is not meant the explanation and working out of the lessons for the next Sundays, but a training-course in teaching independently of the lessons. Where conditions make a parochial school an impossibility, we must reconcile ourselves to the fact that the Sunday-school is the best means remaining to gain recruits for our confirmation classes and to impart the necessary religious knowledge, and must seek to make it as efficient as possible. The first requisite is a staff of conscientious teachers with a heart full of unselfish love for their Savior and His lambs, ready to sacrifice personal convenience and comfort. The teacher who does not realize and appreciate that he or she may be the only teacher a child will ever have, and that an immortal soul is at stake, and who is not an example as to punctuality and church attendance, is only a detriment to the welfare of the child. Still, personal piety and faithfulness and love for the work are not the only requirements for an efficient teaching corps. A knowledge of at least the fundamentals of teaching is essential. Only when our staff knows how to present the subject-matter to the child, what to expect and not to expect, how to deal with the juvenile mind, will that short hour on Sunday yield the desired results. It cannot be expected that our volunteer teachers possess this faculty by nature; they must be taught and trained. It is in this respect that some other denominations are ahead of us. We know of only one text-book for a Lutheran Sunday-school teachers' training-course, and such classes are rather the exception than the rule in our circles. The Sunday-school has come to stay. Let us cease to treat it as a makeshift; let us make the most of it and train our teachers.

F. H. Lindemann, in American Lutheran.

Auf der Suche nach Lehrern.

Ein Notichrei geht aus vom nationalen Erziehungsbureau in Washington, der lebhaften Widerhall auch im Beißen Sause gefunden und Präfident Wilson zu einem Aufruf veranlagt hat. Sier find die veranlassenden Tatsachen, wie sie vom Erziehungsbureau ausgegeben wurden:

"Fünfzigtaufend Lehrerstellen in den Bereinigten Staaten find unbesett.

"Es unterrichten in diesem Sabre [1918] 120,000 Personen, die niemals borber Rlassenunterricht erteilt haben.

"Wehrere taufend Schulen im ganzen Lande find geschloffen worden und mußten geschloffen bleiben, weil die örtlichen Schulbehörden feine Lehrer für fie finden konnten.

"Der dürftige Stand des Schulunterrichts in vielen Orten und das gangliche Nehlen der Schulerziehung in andern bedeutet einen Berluft für die Kinder der Nation, der unersetlich ift."

Rum Teil ift dieser Notstand durch die Kriegsverhältnisse geschaffen. Der Krieg hat eine große Anzahl von Lehrern der öffentlichen Schulen, Colleges und Universitäten ihren Stellungen entzogen. Der Lehrermangel aus diesen Gründen wird mindestens so lange dauern, bis die Soldaten gurudkehren, und andere, die durch die Forderungen des Priegszustandes von ihren Lehrstellen hinweggerufen wurden, wieder frei werden, vielleicht sogar noch länger. Bestimmt aber wird der Notstand im laufenden Schuljahr herrschen.

Präfident Wilson wendet sich in seinem Aufruf besonders an diejenigen, welche früher Lehrer gewesen sind, indem er sagt: "Es ist die patriotische Pflicht aller, welche imstande find, zeitweilig wieder in die Reihen der Lehrer zu treten, daß fie ihre Dienste als Lehrende anbieten und die Abteilung für Schulbehördendienst im Erziehungsbureau in Washington, D. C., davon benachrichtigen. von Soldaten und andern im Regierungsdienst Stehenden könnten zum Unterricht in den Gradschulen zurückfehren, in dem sie Erfahrung haben. Frühere Lehrer in Chemie und Handfertigkeit, die in augenblicklich nicht so wichtigen öffentlichen Berufen stehen, könnten zeitweilig in die Bresche springen. Geistliche und andere, die früher Lehrer waren, könnten als nicht vollbeschäftigte Lehrkräfte an Schulen ihrer Rachbarschaft wertvolle Dienste leisten, bis die Spannung nachgelassen hat.

So viel betreffs des augenblicklichen Notstandes, der außergewöhnliche Maßregeln erfordert. Der Kernpunkt des Lehrermangels aber ist die Gehaltsfrage, die so dringend im ganzen Lande der Regelung harrt. Bon Frank P. Walsh, dem Borsitzer der nationalen Kriegsarbeitsbehörde, ist erst kürzlich bekanntgegeben, daß der Windestlohn, mit dem Arbeiter und ihre Familien in Gesundheit und angemessen Wohlbesinden bei Zugrundelegung des Achtstundentages leben können, 72½ Cents die Stunde betragen muß; das sind täglich \$5.80 und rund \$1800 das Jahr. Damit vergleiche man die Lehrergehälter, und man wird wissen, wo der Hund begraben liegt.

Die Lehrerkonferenz von Nord- und Best-Michigan

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versammelte sich vom 9. bis zum 11. Oktober 1918 in der Immanuelsgemeinde zu Grand Rapids, Wich. Bei Verlesung der Namenliste wurde ersichtlich, daß aus etwa 55 Gliedern 20 vornehmlich wegen der schrecklichen spanischen Insluenza sehlten.

Der Herr Borsitzer, I. Frank, verlas seine Eröffnungsrede, in der er den Iweck der Konserenzen klar darlegte, nämlich, daß wir durch den Besuch der Konserenzen in geistlichen und weltlichen Fächern so gefördert werden, daß wir mit größerer Fähigkeit, Lust und Liebe wieder ans Werk gehen und für Gottes Reich arbeiten können.

Die am Nachmittag abgehaltene Wahl ergab folgendes Resultat: Borsiter: M. Gräbner; Bizevorsiter: C. T. Met; Sekretär: E. Deffner; Dirigent: Theo. Breihan.

Im Berlauf der Situngen wurden zwei deutsche theoretische Arbeiten: "Der Lehrer als Borbild in der Gemeinde" (Kollege L. Dänzer), "Das geistliche Lied in Schule, Kirche und Haus" (Kollege Theo. Breihan) und eine englische: "Mistakes to de Avoided in Ordinary Speaking and Writing" (Kollege M. Gräbner) vorgelegt, eingehend besprochen und angenommen.

Since the Immanuel Congregation of Grand Rapids had dropped the use of the German language in their school, all practical lessons were given in English: Catechization, "The Good Angels" (Colleague Louis Roedel); "Correct Use of 'lie' and 'lay'"

(Colleague Walter Boesenecker); Bible-story, "The Creation" (Colleague J. Dreier); "Lesson in Spelling" (Colleague A. Kummer). Each of these lessons was duly discussed and accepted.

Much credit is due the conference for accomplishing an enormous amount of work. For, besides hearing and commenting upon the various papers and lessons, and disposing of essential business matters, they received twice daily instructions in the Palmer Method of Penmanship under Prof. Theiss, of Chicago. It was necessary several times to extend the time of session, and to hold an extra meeting.

What, however, seemed to be of prime importance, and whereof the conference is justly proud, was an essay delivered by Colleague W. H. Lohrmann, entitled: "How Do We Imbue Our Pupils with True Patriotism?" a short synopsis of which follows:—

In this time of war, "Patriotism" is the slogan. For the purpose of reassuring ourselves, let us consider:

We imbue our schoolchildren with true patriotism by teaching them — $\,$

1. To know and love their country;

2. To know and love their government;

3. To obey their government for the Lord's sake.

In order to love anything, you must be acquainted with it. Our pupils learn to know and love their country by means of the Geography and History lessons. They learn to know our country's extent, its beauty, its wealth, its resources. They learn to feel what the poet expressed:

Our country, 'tis a glorious land,
With broad arms stretched from shore
to shore;
The wide Pacific chafes its strand,
It hears the dark Atlantic roar,
And nurtured on its ample breast,

How many a goodly prospect lies, In Nature's wildest grandeur dressed, Enameled by its loveliest dyes.

Our schoolchildren learn of America's discovery during the Reformation period, of the explorations by European nations, and of settlements made by those seeking a place of refuge from autocratic persecution. Our pupils are acquainted with the struggle of the Americans for their independence. They know what price it cost to banish slavery from our shores. They know that there were thousands of Lutherans who fought, bled, and died to make this country "one and inseparable," "the Land of Liberty and Union" forever. This knowledge begets love.

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This war is fought to "make the world safe for democracy." There is no older democracy than the Christian Church, nor a truer democracy than the Lutheran Church. Like in a democracy, so in the Lutheran Church all men are equal. The fundamental law for a democracy is its constitution; for the Lutheran Church it is the Bible.

With this conception of "democracy" Lutheran children are brought up, and are taught the principles of our democratic government as carried out in the Union, the State, and all subdivisions thereof. Thus they become acquainted with the fact that theirs is the most blessed of all countries on earth, that in no other country could they enjoy such liberties, such far-reaching advantages as in the United States of America.

At the outbreak of the war, obedience to the government became the first requisite of patriotism. If the Lutheran school does anything, it teaches just this obedience. In its explanation of the Fourth Commandment governmental officers are classed with parents and masters, whom all citizens should honor, serve, and obey, and hold in love and esteem. This fact is also conclusively set forth in the "Table of Duties," an important part of the Lutheran Catechism, from which our pupils memorize the following Bible-texts: Rom. 13, 1. 2. 4—7; 1 Tim. 2, 1—3; 1 Pet. 2, 13. 14, substituting, however, the titles of our officials for those mentioned there.

Thus we see that the Lutheran school has been and is to-day doing its duty towards its government.

Whether, however, the Lutheran school shall endure, does not rest with us, but with Christ, the Archbishop of the Church.

With might of ours can naught be done, Soon were our loss effected, But for us fights the Valiant One, Whom God Himself elected. Ask ye, Who is this? Jesus Christ it is, Of Sabaoth Lord; And there's none other God, He holds the field forever!

This essay resulted in an enthusiastic discussion, after which it was thankfully adopted.

The colleagues of Saginaw Valley were authorized to designate the place of meeting for next year.

After hearing and acting upon various committee reports, and assigning the work for next year; the conference was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

E. D.

Literarifches.

Liturgy and Agenda. Abridged Edition. Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.

The abridged edition of the Liturgy and Agenda contains 144 pages, is 3¾ inches wide, 6 inches high, and has a thickness with cover of only ¼ inch. It is a very handsome and handy little volume, especially adapted for the pastor when engaged in itinerant missionary work, as it contains all the forms of pastoral work. It is carried in two styles: Style M, bound in select black Persian morocco leather, with gilt edges and a simple gold cross on the front cover; price, \$1.50. Style C, imitation black leather, edges red without gold, cross stamped in imitation gold leaf; price, \$1.20.

The wide range of usefulness may be gleaned from the following Table of Contents: —

Part I. - Liturgy.

The Order of Morning Service, or the Communion. The Order of Morning Service. (Second Form.) Order of Evening Service, or Vespers. The Order of Afternoon or Evening Service. (Second Form.) The Order of Early Service, or Matins. The Order of Confessional or Preparatory Service. Collects and Prayers. Special Intercessions and Thanksgivings: 1. For a Woman after Childbirth. 2. For the Churching of Women. 3. For the Catechumens. 4. For the Communicants. 5. For Persons Betrothed. 6. For the Sick. 7. At the Announcement of a Death. 8. During a Vacancy in a Church. 9. In Time of Dearth and Famine. 10. In Time of Unseasonable Weather. 11. In Time of Pestilence. 12. After a Great Disaster. 13. In Time of Insurrection and Tumults. 14. In Time of War. 15. In Time of Peace Restored.

Part II. - Agenda.

Baptism: 1. The Baptism of Infants. (First Form.) Second Form. (Without Sponsors.) Emergency Baptism. 2. Confirmation of Lay-Baptism. 3. The Baptism of Adults. Confirmation. Marriage (two forms). Anniversary of Marriage. Lessons and Prayers for the Sick and the Dying: 1. Afflictions and Their Uses. 2. Repentance and Assurance of Forgiveness. 3. Patience under Suffering and Trust in God's Help. 4. Preparation for Death, and When the End Is at Hand. 5. Gratitude for Recovery. 6. At the Sickbed of Children. The Communion of the Sick. The Burial of the Dead: A. At the House. B. At the Church. C. At the Grave. The Ordination of a Minister. The Ordination and Installation of a Minister. The Installation of a Pastor. The Installation of a Church. Congregational Meeting. W. C. K.

Synobalbericht bes Michigan-Distritts der Ev. Luth. Synode von Missouri, Ohio und andern Staaten. Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo. Preis: 24 Cts.

Thema der Lehrverhandlungen: "Der Seilsweg." B. C. K.

Synodalbericht des Minnesota-Distritts der Ev. Luih. Synode von Missouri, Ohio und andern Staaten. Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo. Preis: 20 Cis.

Unter dem Thema "Die Lehre vom Bann" werden folgende Punkte besprochen: Bannen heißt, von der christlichen Gemeinde ausschließen. Die Gewalt zu bannen hat die christliche Ortsgemeinde. Gebannt soll werden das miindige Gemeindeglied, das als beharrlich unbuksertig offenbar geworden ist. Der Gebannte ist aller Rechte, Güter und Segnungen der christliche Kirche verlustig, solange er nicht Buße tut. Der Zweck des Bannes ist die Rettung des Gefallenen, die Warnung der andern, das Wohl der Gemeinde und die Ehre Gottes.

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Synodalbericht des Nord-Illinois-Districts der Ev.-Luth. Synode von Missouri, Osio und andern Staaten. Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo. Preis: 22 Cts.

Thema der Lehrverhandlungen: "Lom hohepriesterlichen Umte unsers Herrn ZGiu Christi." W. C. K.

Patrick Hamilton. By Wm. Dallmann. Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo. Cloth, 64 pages. Price, 25 cts.

For students of the times of the Reformation this little booklet will prove an interesting and instructive help.

M.

Concordia Bible Class. Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo. Published monthly. Price, 40 cts. per annum.

The Concordia Bible Class Lessons for 1919 offer a course of study on the individual books of the Bible. Every reader of the Bible should not only know the aim and purpose of the Bible as a whole, but should also seek to learn the aim and scope of the individual books which compose the Biblical library. For those communities in which there are regular Bible studies these monthly lessons will prove of valuable assistance, and should be in the hands of every member of the class. M.

Ginführung.

Lehrer Louis Schilke, bisher an der Schule zu Rogers Eith, Wich., tätig, wurde am 1. Sonnt. d. Adv. 1918 als Lehrer der Mittelklasse der St. Paulusschule zu Chicago (Austin), Jk., durch den Unterzeichneten eingeführt.

Altes und Pleues.

Die Intherische Hochschule in Milwausee, die bisher von der lutherischen Hochschulgesellschaft erhalten und kontrolliert wurde, ist jest in andere Hände übergegangen. Damit die Gemeinden als solche Interesse an dieser Anstalt nehmen, ist eine lutherische Hochschulkonserenz gegründet worden, die nun das Eigentumsrecht und die Kontrolle übernommen hat. Man glaubt, daß sich in Kürze alle Gemeinden Milwausees dieser Konserenz anschließen werden.

M. L.

Dr. H. Noth, langjähriger Präses des ThielsCollege in Greens ville, Ba., starb am 25. September 1918. Seinerzeit war er auch einer der ersten Prosessionen des Chicagoer Seminars. M. L.

Bible School. — First steps by a Lutheran church in America to establish Bible schools along the lines of the Moody Institute in Chicago and similar institutions along a smaller scale were taken by the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America at its last convention. A resolution was adopted asking the several districts to begin the establishment of such institutions in the larger centers, with the object of increasing their number as need arises. — Lutheran Standard.

Große Summen für Lehranstalten. Dem Lutheran Church Herald zufolge sammeln die nördlichen Preschhterianer gegenwärtig \$36,000,000 für ihre höheren Lehranstalten, die nördlichen Methodisten \$30,000,000, die südlichen Baptisten \$10,000,000, die Campbelliten \$6,300,000, die nürdlichen Baptisten \$6,000,000, die jüdlichen Wethodisten \$5,400,000, die Vereinigte Preschterianische Kirche \$1,450,000 und die Reformierte Kirche kmerikas \$1,250,000. — Die nördlichen Wethodisten haben einen Kirche baufonds von \$13,500,000.

Römische Parochialschulen Chicagos anglisiert. Die römischen Gesmeindeschulen der Erzdiözese Chicago mit einer Frequenz von 125,000 Kindern sind durch einen Erlaß Erzdischof Mundeleins vollständig anglisiert worden. Deutsch, Polnisch, Italienisch usw., im ganzen zehn Sprachen, fallen als Unterrichtsmedium hin. Zu Anfang des gegenwärtigen Schulzjahres wurden durch ein Komitee, bestehend aus drei Mann, für die Gesmeindeschulen der Diözese \$1,350,000 wert Schulbücher gekauft. Man will das System vereinheitlichen. (Lehre u. Wehre.)

Die Siebententags-Abventisten haben in unserm Lande 90 Lehr= anstalten. W. L.

Famous Koran Stolen from Russ Library.—One of the victims of the Russian revolution is the most famous copy of the Koran in the world. It was stolen from the public library in Petrograd, and its whereabouts is now an absolute mystery. Speaking of this volume of the Koran, the celebrated Russian scholar, Prof. S. F. Oldenburg, said: "The stolen Koran is unquestionably one of the most famous volumes of its kind. By Mussulmans throughout the world it was regarded as very holy. I personally have seen hundreds of worshipers of Allah walk into the public library and bow before the book. A beautiful legend surrounds this volume—the blood-spots on its covers are said to be those of Mahomet himself. I don't know the motive that may have impelled those who stole it. I do not believe the story that Turks have stolen it, as the Soviet government already has promised to return it to any properly designated body representing the Mahomedan church." A few days before the theft a number of American collectors had offered \$1,000,000 for it.

Milwaukee Sentinel.

Eingegangen für bie neue Anlaorgel.

Binfen von Juni bis Dezember: \$9.76; früher quittiert: \$571.29-(S. \$581.05.) Alb. H. Willer, Schatzmeister.